



West Bountiful City

Strength • Unity • Family

2008

Mayor's Message

Growth Continues in City's Commercial District

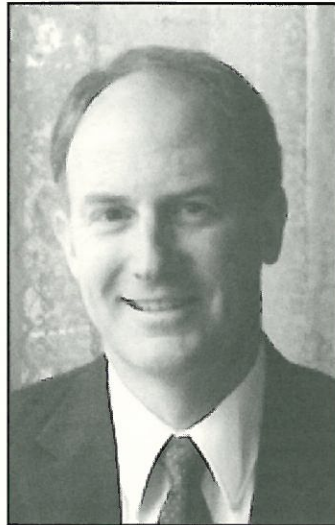
By Mayor James Behunin

We are finally beginning to see the results of years of hard work to establish a strong retail tax base for West Bountiful City. One of the great benefits of our commercial district is its location. Because it is situated on the east side of the freeway and away from our residential neighborhoods, we can enjoy the convenience of having many great stores nearby but avoid having our residential neighborhoods impacted by the traffic that retail centers tend to attract.

West Bountiful is also starting to see a huge benefit from the increased sales tax revenues that have been generated by the new stores. This year, with the opening of the new Larry Miller Chrysler, Dodge Jeep dealership, our sales tax revenue will likely be three times what it was just two years ago before the opening of Costco.

Another benefit of having such a large amount of sales tax revenue is that our city is able to keep property taxes low. In fact, West Bountiful has one of the lowest property tax rates in Davis County and we plan to keep it that way.

Residents can expect the growth to continue. Two new restaurants will soon open next to Lowe's. One, sure to be popular among our residents, is a Texas Roadhouse restaurant known for its steaks. The other is for the more adventurous



type—a restaurant known for its sushi. We will continue to meet with other businesses interested in locating in West Bountiful and look forward to announcing those new projects as well.

In terms of our long range plans, we are looking forward to the day several years down the road when UDOT will rebuild the I-15 interchange at 500 South. That will create many new opportunities to provide additional commercial development in West Bountiful both northeast and northwest of that interchange. We appreciate your support as we continue to work to expand our retail district so we can meet our city's needs while keeping property taxes low.

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Front Runner Trial Very Comfortable

Mayor Behunin and councilmembers were given the opportunity to have a trial run from the Woods Cross station to Kaysville on the new UTA Front Runner.

It was a spectacular experience. Residents should look forward to this new, efficient form of transportation coming this Spring 2008. The seats are comfortable and include outlets for laptop computers. It is particularly fun to pass the cars on the freeway as the Front Runner moves at 79 miles per hour between stations with no delays for lane closures or accidents.

Historic Happenings

Indian Advice Led to Early City Settlement

In 1848 James Fackrell, Sr., his wife, Amy, and son, James Jr. crossed the plains and arrived in the Salt Lake Valley. While deciding where to settle, the Fackrells were told if they would go 10 miles farther north they would find some good land. They met some Indians about one mile east of the present West Bountiful Elementary School. The Fackrell family explained that they were looking for some land where their family could settle. The Indians told them to go west where they would find beautiful, fertile land due to all the nearby streams and springs.

They found this to be true! They settled on 92 acres near a spring at 400 North and 800 West. This was the beginning of West Bountiful. It was incorporated as a town on January 28, 1949 and became a city on November 12, 1962. (*West Bountiful A Pictorial History*)

As a Historic Commission, we would like to give glimpses into the history of the homes and people of West Bountiful in the City's quarterly newsletter. If you have histories you would like to share, please contact the Historic Commission through the City Office. We would also like to welcome Alana Winegar and Alan Malan as new members of the Historic Commission.

(Also see "A Glimpse of our City History" on pg. 7)

COUNCIL MEMBERS

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